

DATE ISSUED: July 2, 2004

REPORT NO. 04-146

ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: 2003/2004 Winter Shelter Program – Final Report

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

Each year, the Community Services Division of the Community and Economic Development Department submits a report summarizing the accomplishments of the Winter Shelter Program. This year's report has been prepared in cooperation with Alpha Project for the Homeless (Alpha Project), Vietnam Veterans of San Diego (VVSD), and the San Diego Rescue Mission (the Rescue Mission).

DISCUSSION

The 2003/2004 Winter Shelter Program was designed to offer safe shelter during the colder months and assist the City's homeless population move closer to self-sufficiency. This program adds to the existing 1,948 beds provided in year round programs by nonprofit organizations. This year's program operated December 15, 2003 through March 15, 2004 for single adults, December 19, 2003 through March 17, 2004 for veterans, and December 19, 2003 through March 17, 2004 for women with children.

The Winter Shelter Program was a collaboration of the City, the San Diego Housing Commission, the County of San Diego, various nonprofit homeless and social service providers

and government-sponsored agencies. Service providers met monthly to resolve issues, ensure consistent scheduling of services, and provide a continuum of care by addressing service gaps at the shelter sites.

The City contracted with Alpha Project to provide management and services for 200 single adults, VVSD to provide management and services for 150 veterans, and the Rescue Mission to provide emergency shelter services for up to 55 women and children.

A total of \$497,025 was allocated for the 2003/2004 Winter Shelter Program. Funding sources included: Social Service Funds \$289,600, Housing Commission \$95,436, Community Development Block Grant \$65,000 (Mayor and Council Discretionary Funds: Council District 2 - \$5,000, Council District 3 - \$15,000, Council District 4 - \$5,000, Council District 5 - \$10,000, and Council District 7 - \$30,000) and Prior Year Savings \$46,989.

The specific site locations and expenses were as follows:

- ❖ Single adults, Newton Avenue and 16th Street, operated by Alpha Project: \$216,525
- ❖ Veterans, 2801½ Sports Arena Boulevard (SPAWAR lot), operated by VVSD: \$165,000
- ❖ Families, 1639 National Avenue, San Diego Rescue Mission facility, operated by the Rescue Mission: \$49,550

SERVICES

The success of this year's program can be attributed to the strong partnership with the nonprofit provider community, County Health and Human Service Agency, the financial support received from the Mayor and City Council, Housing Commission, and the data support provided by the County's Regional Task Force on the Homeless. City departments ensured necessary services were provided for the timely setup and take down of the two Sprung Structures used to house individuals at the Newton and Sports Arena Boulevard sites. (In addition, they ensured that all vital services were always available to address electrical, maintenance, storage and other issues.)

The adult homeless clients were provided employment and housing information, recovery programs and other supportive services totaling over 1,362 staff/service hours.

SUMMARY OF CLIENTS SERVED

The final report indicates that a combined total of 1,275 unduplicated clients were served during the 2004 Winter Shelter season. Of this total, 158 (12%) were children and 1,117 (88%) were adults. Of the total number of adults, 838 (66%) were men and 279 (22%) were women.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kim Pearson-Brown, Homeless Services Coordinator at (619) 533-6280.

Respectfully submitted,

HANK CUNNINGHAM
Director, Economic Development &
Community Services

Approved: BRUCE HERRING
Deputy City Manager

CUNNINGHAM/KPB

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2003/2004 Winter Shelter Report

Note: Due to the size of the attachment, a limited distribution was made. A copy of the attachment is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk.